













## THE RUMOURS

## TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

### MELBOURNE.

WEDNESDAY.

The Governor has not received any despatches or telegrams respecting the war, but it is anticipated some Imperial directions will arrive *via* California with respect to neutrality. Mr. Verdon's despatches mislaid the mail, and will also come by the California route.

Mr. Aspinall resigned his seat in the Assembly to-day.

The surplus over the expenses of the return ball to the Mayor—£600—has been divided among the charities.

Mr. Macquay writes that he has lifted another vessel, and was lifting a steamer as large as the City of Launceston.

The Governor left directions for the preparation of a series of evening entertainments at Toorak, to come off when he returns, to take the place of the usual Queen's Birthday Ball, which was omitted this year.

Tom Thumb gives a levee at the Town Hall, in aid of the charities, and will visit Sydney shortly.

Breadstuffs and feeding grains closed at a declining maize is quoted at 4s.

Mr. J. Campbell and Co. report that the price of prime cattle has improved from 50s. to 52s. per head; the news by the mail caused a depression in sheepskins, and prices have receded 1s. per head.

Messrs. Powers, Rutherford, and Co. report that the price of sheep is 6d. to 1s. lower; 7000 wethers from Riverina sold at 10s. to 12s. per head; 300 bullocks from the Barwon averaged 6s 16s.

QUEENSCLIFF. WEDNESDAY.  
ARRIVED.—Sydney Griffiths, barque, Edipah,  
Arrive, and Galatea, schooner, from Newcastle;  
Pioneer, schooner, from Richmond River; Hector,  
schooner, from Grafton.  
SAILED.—Suffolk, barque, for Newcastle.

HOBART TOWN. WEDNESDAY.  
The Assembly is discussing resolutions with refer-  
ence to the main line of railway.

ADLAIDE. WEDNESDAY.

Amongst the papers of Mr. Hawkins, deceased, a colonist, has been found one of the original warrants by which Charles I. collected his forced loans.

The Colonial Secretary of Western Australia visits the colonies principally to obtain a good man as Surveyor-General; the salary offered is £600. He has been busy since his arrival inspecting our charitable institutions, accompanied by the Governor.

It is stated that the Aldings took to Melbourne £1000 weight of gold, from the Criterion reef.

At an influential meeting at Clare resolutions were passed in favour of the new Land Bill.

The conditions of settlement, under the new Land Act, were finally settled yesterday,—they are very complicated. Mr. Glyde has given notice of motion "That no member of Parliament be allowed to take up land on credit."

The German Press proposes forming a committee to raise funds for the relief of the wounded Prussian

The discussion on the Land Bill is still going on; he attempts by Government to modify the terms of settlement as passed was defeated. On motion of Mr. Ward, the Government is instructed to inquire into the settlement of agricultural areas, and where conditions are not complied with to forfeit the selection.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

The City Coroner (Mr. Henry Shiell), commenced an inquiry yesterday forenoon, at Dickson's Belmont Hotel, in connection with the death of John William Hand. Constable M'Namara deposed that he was duty day at No. 2 Police Station; about 7 o'clock on Tuesday night he received information that a man was reported dead in a house at George-street, Redfern; he, in company with constable Camplin, went there; he knocked at the door and admitted the informant; he saw a woman sitting in a chair behind the door; she put her hand on his face and found that it was cold; she said "John Hand is dead"; he then went for Dr. Morley, who resided on the Botany

Heard; he returned with him to the house and examined the man; the doctor said that he was dead, and that he thought that he had been so for about twenty-four hours. The doctor then called on the Police Officer, Mr. Fox. Acting sub-inspector Taylor, in charge of No. 2 Police station, deposed that, on Tuesday evening, from information received, he went to a house in George-street, Redfern, as; on going into a front room he saw a man sitting in a chair; he believed that his name was Hand; the body was stiff and cold, and life appeared to have been extinct for some hours; he examined the man, and found that he was dead, without materially altering his position, and the only mark he found was a cut on the left wrist; he searched the clothing and is

the coat pocket he found thirteen one-pound bank-notes. In the trousers pocket he found a purse containing half a sovereign, 10s. in silver, and fourpence halfpenny in copper. The room was a wretched one; there was a lot of paper and rubbish about the room. The prisoner said he had seen a female whom he believed to be the dead girl's step-daughter lived in the house; she would not tell witness her name; she appeared to be a woman of weak intellect; she told him that she inflicted the wound on deceased's left wrist as he had attempted to strike her; witness saw some blood on the door behind which deceased was sitting; he had ascertained that deceased occasionally drank to excess and was a very bad character; he was a native of the district, but, by his wife, once again, he believed to be, his cross-

was an inmate of the Bay View Lunatic Asylum, Cook's River. At this stage the inquest was adjourned to 2 o'clock, this forenoon, to be resumed at the Benevolence Asylum, Pitt-street South.

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**FREAK OF NATURE.**—The *Goulburn Herald* states that a calf has been dropped at Bet Bet with a nose like that of a pig. The ears hang down at the back of the head fully eight inches. The tail was like an opossum's, with a curl at the tip. The fore legs were grown to the sides, the hoofs being of the consistency of a fawn's, and not cloven. The head,

**GAOL TOWNSHIP.**—There seems to be a racial in the country towns for the erection of a local *custodia*. It is considered an evidence of civilisation, and consequent progress. On the 23rd instant, a meeting was held at Forbes, with a view to consider the most effectual plan to adopt in order to show the Government the gross injustice in declining to take any measures towards the erection of a gaol there, in consequence of a false estimate having been given to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary of the population.

**RIFLE MATCH.**—The undermentioned members of No. Company 1st Sydney Battalion Volunteer Rifles and the Goulburn Volunteer Corps met last Tuesday, on St. Leonards Rifle Range, to shoot of

return match. The day was fine, with moderate strong wind from the south, and better scores ought to have appeared opposite the names of the majority of the competitors. The conditions were almost perfect, each company to shoot at 200, 300, 500, and 600 yards, each five shots, with one sighting shot and 40 minutes. Hythe position; Government ammunition; 1000 yds. to the Gunpowder General Hay, as distance mark, with long Enfield rifles. It will be seen from the following list that No. 1 Company were again the winners by 36 points.

No. 1 COMPANY.

	200.	300.	500.	600.	Total.
Private Slade .....	14	14	13	11	52
Lance-sergeant Finch .....	14	14	13	11	52
Lance-corporal A. Freeman .....	14	14	12	9	49

Private McGeehan	...	13	12	10	8	6
Ensign Cooper	...	12	15	10	8	6
Private Ross	...	12	9	11	9	7
Average, 46.1.						
GOURLEIGH COMPANY.						
Sergeant Cleary	...	13	11	11	9	7
Head-sergeant Spruille	...	13	6	11	10	8
Corporal Blackburn	...	12	13	8	10	7
Private Byrne	...	12	13	7	4	4
Clerk	...	14	10	8	4	—
Lowest score for absentee	...	—	—	—	—	—
Average, 49.1.						

dividend, to induce private capitalists to undertake the work, but in vain; and a bill has therefore been introduced into Parliament to enable the Government to borrow the necessary money to carry it out as a public work.

In order to gather up the experience gained on its existing lines, the House of Assembly lately ordered a return from the Engineer-in-Chief of the Government showing, first, the cost of a line having a through traffic of 30,000 tons per annum; and also of a line having a through traffic of 150,000 tons per annum; the returns give descriptions both of the permanent works and of the engines recommended. The results of these returns were then called upon to enlighten the Assembly.—Mr. H. MAIR, Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. R. C. PATTERSON, assistant engineer, and Mr. PETER GALT, the resident engineer on the Northern extension.

The return, giving the opinions of these three gentlemen, has just been published. The first, as the most responsible of the three, goes the most fully into detail. From his statement, it appears that the average annual traffic for the last seven years on the line running from Adelaide northwards has been over 200,000 tons, and that though the line has been somewhat costly to construct, it is not too heavy for the present rate of speed. The line was constructed on the Victorian gauge of three feet three inches. Mr. MAIR seems to be of opinion that this was an unnecessary width and a waste of money, still in any extension of that line he would adhere to the gauge, and otherwise two sets of rolling stock would be required. But for detached lines he recommends the narrower gauge of three feet six inches, but stipulates that on such a gauge

line speed should be kept down. His argument is that such a line would have quite sufficient capacity for the traffic it would be called upon to carry, and that the working expenses would be reduced, because the narrower gauge the smaller is the proportion of the non-paying to the paying load. He points out that in Queensland, where ordinary labour ranged from 6s. to 7s. a day, a line of this class has cost £6550 per mile. In India, with Coolie labour the average cost has been £3900; that in Canada, where labour is 4s. 2d. a day, the cost has been £2900; and that in Norway the cost, through easy country, has been £3270, while through heavy country it has ranged from £4600 to £5382. His estimate for the South Australian line gives him the light traffic £1791 per mile, and for heavy traffic £2389, that is to say a lower price than any of the examples to which he has referred. The estimate is exclusive of the cost of land and of fencing, or of engineering and office expenses, but provides in the second case for steel rails of forty-five pounds to the yard. The line of railway has been actually made in the colony for that price; but Parliament is going on the presumption that it can be done, and is sanctioning the loss of half a million sterling to make a line of 200 miles, which is at the rate of £2500 per mile.

Mr. PATTERSON's estimate is £1880 for the line of small traffic, and £2280 for the line of large traffic. Mr. GALT makes his estimate range from £1899 per mile up to £3145, but then the more expensive of these is to have steel rails of sixty-five pounds to the yard. All three engineers recommended the use of FAIRLIE'S engines, and likely to be most serviceable, judging from what they have recently been found

perform in England; but at the same time it is admitted that the cost of working there is at present uncertain.

But whenever they refer to the gradient they assume that the country is sufficient easy to admit of the inclines being kept down to one in a hundred. That is a condition which is practicable in South Australia, but it is not practicable in this colony. In Queensland the gradient was kept down to one in seventy, the ascent of the main range being in this colony, by ascending the line, but in this colony, to keep down the construction, it will be necessary, until we get right out on to the Western or Northern plains, to admit gradients of one in thirty; and it is requisite, before we commit ourselves to any new scheme, that we should know what little engines will do on little lines with such gradients. We have already seen, on our Western mountain line, how the cost varies, as the gauge by the steepness

the load that can be taken up the steeper the gradients; and the load will be proportionately smaller when the locomotive power is slighter.

**SUPREME COURT.**—Business, This day.—Ter  
list.—New Trial Motions and Demurrers, &c  
Lloyd v. Queensland Steam Navigation Company

new trial motion; City Bank v. Australian Joint  
Stock Bank (special case); Eckford v. Scholey, new  
trial motion; Grimley v. Flood, demurrer. Master  
Office.—A\* 10.30, Knox v. McDonald, charge  
plaintiff; at 11 a.m., Mackenzie v. West, plaintiff  
charge.

**DISTRICT COURT.**—The sittings for this month consist of 530 cases, Nos. 3720 to 4250. The undeposited cases will be disposed of as follows: This day.—No. 3720 will be taken at 10 a.m., 3814 will not be taken before 11 a.m., 3896 will not be taken before 12 a.m., 3913, 3914, 3915, 3916, 3917, 3918, 3919, 3920, 3921, 3922, 3923, 3924, 3925, 3926, 3927, 3928, 3929, 3930, 3931, 3932, 3933, 3934, 3935, 3936, 3937, 3938, 3939, 3940, 3941, 3942, 3943, 3944, 3945, 3946, 3947, 3948, 3949, 3950, 3951, 3952, 3953, 3954, 3955, 3956, 3957, 3958, 3959, 3960, 3961, 3962, 3963, 3964, 3965, 3966, 3967, 3968, 3969, 3970, 3971, 3972, 3973, 3974, 3975, 3976, 3977, 3978, 3979, 3980, 3981, 3982, 3983, 3984, 3985, 3986, 3987, 3988, 3989, 3990, 3991, 3992, 3993, 3994, 3995, 3996, 3997, 3998, 3999, 4000, 4001, 4002, 4003, 4004, 4005, 4006, 4007, 4008, 4009, 4010, 4011, 4012, 4013, 4014, 4015, 4016, 4017, 4018, 4019, 4020, 4021, 4022, 4023, 4024, 4025, 4026, 4027, 4028, 4029, 4030, 4031, 4032, 4033, 4034, 4035, 4036, 4037, 4038, 4039, 4040, 4041, 4042, 4043, 4044, 4045, 4046, 4047, 4048, 4049, 4050, 4051, 4052, 4053, 4054, 4055, 4056, 4057, 4058, 4059, 4060, 4061, 4062, 4063, 4064, 4065, 4066, 4067, 4068, 4069, 4070, 4071, 4072, 4073, 4074, 4075, 4076, 4077, 4078, 4079, 4080, 4081, 4082, 4083, 4084, 4085, 4086, 4087, 4088, 4089, 4090, 4091, 4092, 4093, 4094, 4095, 4096, 4097, 4098, 4099, 4100, 4101, 4102, 4103, 4104, 4105, 4106, 4107, 4108, 4109, 4110, 4111, 4112, 4113, 4114, 4115, 4116, 4117, 4118, 4119, 4120, 4121, 4122, 4123, 4124, 4125, 4126, 4127, 4128, 4129, 4130, 4131, 4132, 4133, 4134, 4135, 4136, 4137, 4138, 4139, 4140, 4141, 4142, 4143, 4144, 4145, 4146, 4147, 4148, 4149, 4150, 4151, 4152, 4153, 4154, 4155, 4156, 4157, 4158, 4159, 4160, 4161, 4162, 4163, 4164, 4165, 4166, 4167, 4168, 4169, 4170, 4171, 4172, 4173, 4174, 4175, 4176, 4177, 4178, 4179, 4180, 4181, 4182, 4183, 4184, 4185, 4186, 4187, 4188, 4189, 4190, 4191, 4192, 4193, 4194, 4195, 4196, 4197, 4198, 4199, 4200, 4201, 4202, 4203, 4204, 4205, 4206, 4207, 4208, 4209, 4210, 4211, 4212, 4213, 4214, 4215, 4216, 4217, 4218, 4219, 4220, 4221, 4222, 4223, 4224, 4225, 4226, 4227, 4228, 4229, 4230, 4231, 4232, 4233, 4234, 4235, 4236, 4237, 4238, 4239, 4240, 4241, 4242, 4243, 4244, 4245, 4246, 4247, 4248, 4249, 4250.

**RANDWICK RACES—SALE OF GATES, &c.**  
Yesterday, Mr. Hemfrey sold by auction, at Tatton Hall, the entrance-gates, stands, &c., for the forthcoming Randwick Spring Meeting. The following were the prices realised:—Entrance gates, 2555s. 10s. 6d.

Derby Stand, £42; Derby Booth, £67 St. Legs Stand, \$90; No. 1 Booth, £40; No. 2, £40; No. 3, £35; No. 4, £28; No. 6, £16; No. 6, £18; stable £5 6s.; fruit stalls, \$9 10s.; total, \$1045 15s.

**TATTERSALL'S.**—A meeting was called b advertisement for last evening, of Tattersall's Club but not a single member of the committee was present, and there was literally no business done. There appears to be a great disinclination on the part of the members of the club to occupy the rooms up stairs

Mr. O'Brien's; the long room on the ground-floor seems to be the most favoured by sporting men, as it appears to be a pretty general opinion that the club is a good deal better than the stairs, which are the place in which case more stringent measures would be adopted to exclude all but bona fide members.

First Congo Tea, Mauritius Sugar, Groceries, &c.—Messrs. Bradley, Newton, and Lamb request to direct special attention to their highest important sales, this day, of the balance of the Congo Tea and River Boyne, &c. &c. For particular advertisements—Adv.

<b>VICTORIA.</b>		
Melbourne	...NE. Dull	346-627 51-
Geelong	...E. Fine	370-61 54-
Cape Schank	...E. Overcast	380-40 55-
Cape Otway	...E. Light. Fine	380-43 54
Portland	...SW., light. Fine	390-600 55-
<b>S. AUSTRALIA.</b>		
Guichen Bay	...NE. Fine	
Adelaide	...NE. Fine	
M'Donnell Bay	NE. Fine	

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**MEMORANDA FOR SEPTEMBER**

	Rises.	Rises.	Sets.		Trays.
1	2.50	2.40	11.55		
2	3.00	2.40	11.55	12.42	1
3	3.17	5.41	12.12	14.41	3
4	3.10	5.42	12.17	2.58	4
5	3.17	5.41	12.25 a.m.	3.58	5
6	3.18	5.48	2.50	4.55	6
7	3.12	5.43	4.18	5.38	7
8	3.12	5.43	5.32	6.18	8
9	3.09	5.45	5.50	7.50	9
10	3.08	5.46	6.18	8.58	10
11	3.08	5.46	6.18	9.58	11
12	3.05	5.47	6.18	10.58	12
13	3.06	5.48	6.18	11.58	13
14	3.06	5.48	6.18	12.58	14
15	3.06	5.49	6.18	1.58	15
16	3.06	5.49	6.18	2.58	16
17	3.06	5.50	6.18	3.58	17
18	3.07	5.51	6.18	4.58	18
19	3.06	5.51	6.18	5.58	19
20	3.05	5.52	6.18	6.58	20
21	3.05	5.53	6.18	7.58	21
22	3.05	5.53	6.18	8.58	22
23	3.05	5.53	6.18	9.58	23
24	3.05	5.53	6.18	10.58	24
25	3.05	5.53	6.18	11.58	25
26	3.05	5.53	6.18	12.58	26
27	3.05	5.53	6.18	1.58	27
28	3.05	5.53	6.18	2.58	28
29	3.05	5.53	6.18	3.58	29
30	3.05	5.53	6.18	4.58	30

**The Sydney Morning Herald.**  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1870.

THE army of Prussia is constituted on a peculiar plan, and different from almost every system prevailing in Europe. This system originated in the uprising against the first EMPEROR OF FRANCE, and was intended to evade the restrictions which were imposed upon the Prussian Monarchy in reference to the number of men in the army. This enthusiasm against the French animated the army as constituted, and so long as this stimulus of warlike passions continued, it had remarkable success, since the number of men disciplined was out of all proportion to those who were actually under the flag.

It is stated in a recent paper, from which we translate the information we have about to give, that the military spirit had almost declined, and that all the inconveniences of the Volunteer system had appeared before the outbreak of the late war.

The revolution of 1848 disclosed the danger to which the Prussian Monarchy was exposed, and upon the recovery of royal power a great improvement upon the system was partially introduced, but it was not till after 1861 that the organisation of the army was completed. Before this time, the proportion who attended muster was small compared with those liable, but from this time a stringent system was adopted, and the effects were shown in the late wars with Denmark and Austria.

The Confederation of North Germany now counts thirty millions of inhabitants. The army on the frontier of peace is 319,000.

It is divided into thirteen corps; and has the peculiarity, that every soldier wears the uniform of Prussia, but the badge of the Principality or Kingdom to which he belongs. For the most part, these soldiers are now raised by the agency of the Prussian Government.

packages; Nettle: 130 cases fruit, W. Harris: 53 cases fruit.  
Lawlins: 8 packages; J. Haaker: 1 package; W. B. Willyard  
cases shell and corn.  
City of Adelaide: 10 Melbourne: 25 hogheads, 28  
mouth, Dickinson, and Co.: 50 cases fruit, J. J. Watts: 25  
Mort and Co.: 120 cases fruit, 41 bags oysters, H. Woodward  
44 cases fruit, F. Gibbons: 27 cases fruit, J. Brown: 30 ca  
cases fruit, J. H. Edwards: 1 case, English, Scottish  
and Australia, Charter: 25 cases fruit, 100 cases  
cases fruit, T. Lawlins: 82 bags barley, 129 bags maize, 58  
Nipper and See: 152 cases fruit, P. James: 70 cases fruit,  
Griffiths: 88 cases fruit, Jones and Plummer: 12 bags oyste  
cases fruit, R. H. Rogers: 10 cases fruit, 10 cases  
cases fruit, P. Cullen: 120 cases fruit, 9 bags carrol  
6 bags oysters, F. Gibbons: 62 bags oysters, C. Woodward:

[illegible]

Hour.	Barometer.	Temperature in shade.	Humidity.	Direction.	Force.	Velocity.	Cloudy.	Rain.
A.M. 9	30.553	51.6	89	W.	0-5	10	7	0.63
P.M. 3	29.91	57.1	88	R.	1-10	14	8	
	29.581	51.2	85	SSW.	0-0	1	1	
Mean ..	30.145	54.3	79.3		0-5	8 1/3		
Evaporation in 24 hours, 0.066.								
SELF-REGISTERING THERMOGRAPH.								
Shade	Maximum .....	58.6	85	W.	0-10	10	7	0.63
	Minimum .....	45.5	75	W.	0-10	10	7	0.63
	Maximum .....	45.5	75	W.	0-10	10	7	0.63
	Minimum .....	45.5	75	W.	0-10	10	7	0.63
Direction, at 9 A.M., 27°.								
Total rainfall from January 1st to August 1st - 45.44 inches.								
Annual average of each station, 45.44 inches, or 4.951 inches.								
COMPARISON OF STATIONS.								
August 31st, 1870. CIVIL ENGINEERS.								
STATIONS.	At 9 A.M.				Per 24 hours previous 9 A.M.			
	Barometer.	Temperature in shade.	Humidity.	Direction.	Force.	Velocity.	Cloudy.	Rain.

SPYNET	155.30-360	49.5	01	W.N.W.	0.3	7.56	44.1
ARIZONA	172.36-340	49.5	01	W.	1.3	2	20.1
NEWCASTLE	150.30-320	57	06	W.	4	4.50	47.8
GOULBURN	1129						
WATBURY	153.24-212	41.0	01	S.	4.0	4.05	38.3
TOWNSHIP	167.30-346	51.7	81	S.	0.0	10.0	43.7
RIANDA	150.30-287	56	02	Calcut	0.0	0.00	19.0
EMERALD	140.39-390	45.0	02	Calcut	0.0	0.71	45.2

ASTRONOMICAL MEMORANDUM FOR SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1876.

Object.	Rises.	Sets.	Phases of the Moon.
SUN.	h.m.	h.m.	
MOON.	6.20	5.40	First quarter 2nd
MERCURY.	7.36	6.40	Full Moon 11th
JUPITER.	7.36	7.40	Last quarter 1st
VENUS.	5.13	8.35	Full Moon 25th
SATURN.	1.18	2.3	
JUPITER.	1.53	11.45	Moon's age, 5.2 days
SATURN.	11.43	1.46	

High water at Sydney on 11th, 5.55; p.m.; on 12th, 6.40; p.m.

H. C. REAGELL, Government Astronomer.

[BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.]  
MELBOURNE.

ARRIVAL.

August 31st, Greyhound, from Clarence River.

BRISBANE.  
DEPARTURES.  
August 30.—Black Swan (s.), City of Brisbane (s.), for Syd:  
ROCKHAMPTON.  
ARRIVAL.  
August 31. Narragansett (s.) from Sydney.















